

Reading: Matthew 25:14-19

Topic: The Blessing Of
Accountability

INTRODUCTION: In life everyone needs someone to be _____ to for without that safeguard human _____ often becomes careless and irresponsible.

I. FROM THE BEGINNING:

A. First People:

1. God created Adam, then Eve and placed them in the paradise of the _____ of Eden with everything they _____ to live safely and comfortably. Gen. 2:8,9
2. However, God did not just place them there and _____ them to their own devices, but He gave them responsibility and accountability to Him concerning their _____ and behavior. Gen. 2:14-16
3. God would come to commune with them in the _____ and all went well for many years until one day they disobeyed the commandment of the Lord and they _____ from God. Gen. 3:6-8
4. When God asked for accountability, Adam blamed his _____ and his _____ blamed the devil, but everyone suffered the consequences of their actions. Gen. 3:6:13

B. The Children Of Israel:

1. When God led His people out of Egypt to bring them to the Promised Land, He _____ them to Mount Sinai to give them the _____ and the plan of the Tabernacle.
2. The Law included the _____ Ten Commandments plus the many other ceremonial regulations and sacrifices, but the foundational purpose of it was to establish accountability to God. Ex. 20:18-20
3. When one broke one of the commandments or _____ of God, there was to be accountability to God and His chosen leaders for the actions, and often a _____ to pay. Num. 15:32-36
4. Some of the saddest _____ in the history of God's people of those days was when there was no accountability to anyone and everyone just _____ as they pleased. Jude 17:6

II. JESUS TAUGHT ACCOUNTABILITY:

A. The Parable Of The Talents:

1. Jesus often used illustrations in His teaching to reveal truths about situations in _____, especially about spiritual _____ and this parable is about accountability. Mt. 25:14
2. The master gave responsibility to each one of his _____ not just for the sake of them having the care of something that was his, but to _____ something from it. Mt. 25:15
3. Two of the three servants became actively involved in doing _____ to produce growth upon that which they had received, while the other one did _____ with what he received. Mt. 25:16-18
4. Jesus then opened the _____ in this story about accountability with the fact that each servant was called to give an account for what they had been _____ from the master. Mt. 25:19

5. The blessing that came with the accountability was rewards for the _____ rendered with what they had been entrusted by the _____, and for two it was a commendation for their work and a promotion to even greater responsibility. Mt. 25:20-23

6. Sadly, for the third servant, his _____ of responsibility and accountability cost him not only his job but condemnation for eternity. Mt. 25:24-30

B. More About Accountability:

1. Jesus recounted another _____ of a man who had been given responsibility by his master and entrusted with his goods but was careless and _____ in what he did. Lk. 16:1

2. The careless servant was summoned to appear before his master to give _____ for his behavior and he realized that he was in big _____. Lk. 16:2

3. The unfaithful steward decided to become diligent and _____ only after knowing that he was about to lose the stewardship and his too _____ actions didn't prevent his firing but it did get the attention and commendation of his master. Lk. 16:3,8

III. ACCOUNTABILITY IN LIFE & MINISTRY:

A. In Life:

1. There are several conditions of life that one will _____ oneself in that will require accountability:

a. Marriage – husbands and wives must be accountable to each other for their _____ and conduct both inside and outside the home.

b. Work – Unless one is self-employed, then one will work for an employer who will be _____ you to do a good _____ and expecting positive results when accountability time comes with an employee review.

c. Home – children and young people should be accountable to _____ who raise them and care for them until they become mature and able to _____ home and fend for themselves.

d. Schooling – Professors and teachers are responsible to educate their _____ and in turn the learners will give account of their learning at _____ time.

B. In Ministry:

1. Ministry and the responsibilities that come with it are a _____ matter before God, for we are dealing with the _____ souls of men. Mt. 16:26

2. Just as in many aspects of natural _____ accountability is required, so much more it should be with _____ matters. I Cor. 4:1,2

3. Every individual in ministry needs to have an accountability structure to _____ to, and one must be aware of the _____ of not wanting to be accountable to anyone else. Heb. 13:17

4. When responsibility is delegated to you in any _____, understand the importance of reporting back to your overseer to give account of what is transpiring with the _____. Acts 4:23

5. When you read the Book of Acts, there are accounts of the ministers and apostles _____ and giving account of what they were _____ and experiencing in their work and ministry.

CONCLUSION: There is a wise _____ that states, "Everyone needs someone to be accountable to", and that is so much _____ true when it comes to spiritual work and ministry.